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CPYRGHT Determination And Strength Will Win ^{etc}

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"If the West is resolute, then I believe that the Soviet Union — by hook or crook — will be the one to back down."

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This estimate, made by the deputy director of intelligence for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in a recent little-publicized speech, appears to be the most authoritative intelligence analysis made public as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization foreign ministers met in Washington this week to discuss German reunification and the Russian threat to Berlin.

The estimate, made from notes and not carried by the press association wires, was given to a University of South Carolina study group. It included the statement that the Soviet Union is not ready to risk a major nuclear war over Berlin, but that Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev "expects to force us to chicken out."

The report that the Russians haven't got what it takes rationally to challenge us this spring, lends addi-

tional significance to the statement made by President Eisenhower in a recent press conference that "we are certainly not going to fight a ground war in Europe."

The President's statement must be interpreted as indicating that the Western allies will not back down on Berlin in the face of a Russian threat of nuclear war. The reasoning is that any such threat would be essentially, as the deputy director of intelligence indicated, a bluff.

It is the outlook for the long-range future that is the challenge. In the years ahead, the West faces a race for leadership in the world against militant communists with fervent faith. Their goal is still to take over all of Berlin. The high pro-Western living standards in West Berlin are a "needle" to the Reds.

The race, then, will be won by the most determined, bearing in mind that the Western allies must never tempt the Russians into a major military path while letting down their strength.